

## Chair's report AGM June 2017

17 years ago some of us started a social group as part of the RNIB Leisure Link project, this group was to become City Synergy two years later.

Over the years we have run or attended getting on for 500 activities and demonstrated that sight loss does not need to prevent participation in a range of things happening within the community or to get around to places of interest

Though recent years have seen a number of challenges we have been able to continue a varied programme. As well as attending these events members and volunteers have often been there to support each other through the tough times.

Two years ago we joined with ESAB and at this AGM we are proposing to merge with Brighton

VIPs. It is a good opportunity to review what we do and how we are doing it. I would like to thank Sue and Daniel and all the staff at ESAB for the support and way they have made us feel so welcome and supported.

Our programme could not run without the volunteers and I wish to thank them all for the hard work and flexibility during the year

I would personally wish to thank Iris who besides doing the finances so diligently has also done a lot of hard work in helping with the planning of activities particularly when I was unavailable during parts of last year.

Merging the groups is an exciting opportunity and we will continue to work hard to ensure that the new group is able to offer the same varied programme as before as well as working with the ESAB team in providing support in the challenges of living with sight loss and with information about the sorts of activities and services available.

Paul Gillett
Chair, City Synergy